

CALIFORNIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
PASADENA, CALIFORNIA

VISION OF BIOLOGY

February 26, 1959

Dr. J. Lederberg
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Stanford University Medical School
Stanford, California

Dear Josh:

Enclosed are several copies of my space biology report. I will send a copy to Rossi, as you suggested, and to each of the names listed on the first page. If I have left anyone out, please see that he gets a copy.

I have been thinking that despite his pessimistic attitude toward the possibility of life on Mars or Venus, Oparin should be interested in the geochemical aspects of space exploration, since this might provide experimental confirmation of his own ideas. I think this approach might get somewhere with him and am considering the idea of sending him a copy. One reason for hesitating is the fact that owing to our inimical opinions on genetics, our relations are pretty formal, and he probably doesn't trust me. Another reason is that there was talk of making official representations to the Russians, and this perhaps should be done first. What do you think? Of one thing I am sure--it will be futile to worry about the contamination problem if we can't get the Russians to agree.

I am also enclosing the program of a colloquium on space research that will be held here on March 19 and 20. The dates dovetail perfectly with the date of our next meeting, and I wonder if you and some of the other committee members would like to attend for one or both days? Attendance is limited and by invitation only, but I could get invitations for four or five people. Let me know if you or any of the others in the S.F. area are interested, the sooner the better. I will certainly attend.

Best regards,

Yours,



Norman Horowitz

NH:kw

P.S. How do I collect my expenses?